

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 48-50, 56, 58-60, 66, 68-70, 76, 78, and 79. Further, the Examiner objected to claims 51, 61, and 71 for depending from a rejected base claim, but indicated that these claims each contain allowable subject matter. Applicants canceled claims 1-47, 52-55, 57, 62-65, 67, 72-75, and 77 in previous communications. Applicants thank the Examiner for the recognition of allowable subject matter in the present claims.

Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with the rejections set forth in the Office Action, and reserve the right to pursue the rejected claims in a future continuing application, Applicants have chosen to place the present application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, by the present Response, Applicants have amended independent claims 48, 58, and 68 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 51, 61, and 71, respectively. Additionally, Applicants have canceled claims 51, 56, 61, 66, 71, and 76 without prejudice. Upon entry of the amendments, claims 48-50, 58-60, 68-70, 78, and 79 will remain pending in the present patent application and are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of all pending claims.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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